

HB1196 section 14

John and Patricia Schlag

Ellington CT

We are opposed to the land swap currently in this bill.

First, the language is not correct. The Goodspeed is not part of this deal at present.

This proves negligence and bad form to include a section into a bill that is outdated and it should have been revised in the first place.

And the value of the lands are far from equal.

More than half of the 17 acres in Haddam has a view of the river, Opera house and antique swing bridge, adding significant value and desirability to the property.

They are worth much more than the appraisal value of the 87 acres (much of which is undevelopable).

We do not support the state giving away prime, riverview property, purchased for its conservation value and then swapped because a developer and "wants it."

This is not what I entrust my state legislature to do for its citizens.

The state puts all other properties they own (without conservation rights) out for bid.

What makes this swap special?

If a swap were indeed to commence, why not put it out for a "swap auction" and see what the state could potentially get in return.

Possibly 200 acres, including a lake?

A 100 acre marsh that might have rare species of fish or frogs?

I know many people who have better land than this 87 acres on a steep hill sprawling with rocks and ledge.

If the developer says it is so developable, why has it not been done in all these years.

Thank you for your time.

Please remove section 14 from HB1196.

Sincerely,

John and Patricia Schlag

Ellington CT